



# Department of Justice

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY RICHARD S. HARTUNIAN announced that EDGAR ANTONIO RIVERA MERLOS, also known as Ulysses Armando Merdos Garcia, age 56, formerly of Leesburg, Virginia, was sentenced today to imprisonment for a term of 37 months, followed by three years of supervised release, by United States District Court Judge Gary L. Sharpe, in Albany, New York, for illegally reentering the United States after removal. Today's sentencing followed RIVERA MERLOS's December 16, 2009 guilty plea.

RIVERA MERLOS, a citizen of El Salvador, was previously removed from the United States to Mexico under the name Ulysses Armando Merdos Garcia on May 27, 1995. Prior to the deportation, RIVERA MERLOS had been convicted of the offense of distribution of a controlled substance, an aggravated felony, in Los Angeles County California. On October 25, 2009 RIVERA MERLOS was encountered and arrested as an illegal alien by a United States Customs and Border Protection officer at the Champlain, New York Port of Entry. RIVERA MERLOS had unsuccessfully attempted to enter Canada from the United States near Lacolle, Quebec.

This matter was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Champlain, New York.

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